

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
26 May 2005 (26.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/046750 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
A61M 5/178 (2006.01)

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IL2004/001036

(22) International Filing Date:
11 November 2004 (11.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
158888 16 November 2003 (16.11.2003) IL

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE,
SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments

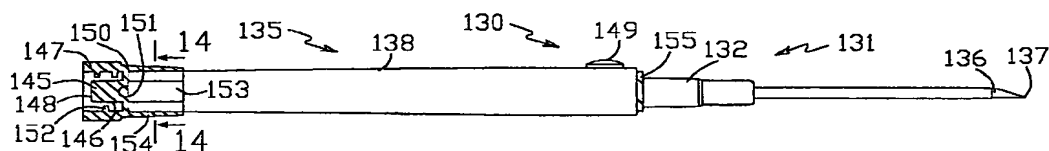
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
26 May 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CATHETER INTRODUCER



(57) Abstract: Safety catheter introducer 135 (see fig. 13) comprises catheter 131, needle 136, a safety means including needle protector 138 and actuated by trigger 149, as well as catheter cap 150. The latter is initially detachably retained on hexagonal shank 153 of protector 138 by moderate friction forces, and male luer member 145 is protected from contact with personnel by cap lateral wall 147. After the catheter emplacement, needle withdrawal and needle sharp point protection, operator turns protector 138 through 180 degrees and fixes cap 150 on catheter 131 by thread 152 using protector 138 as a cap holder. In doing so, male luer member 145 occludes the catheter entrance. Thereafter, operator easily detaches the protector from the cap. As a result, catheter 131 remains in patient's vein being closed with cap 150.

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